



Palmetto Scholars Academy

2415 Avenue F
North Charleston, SC

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Grades | 6-10 High School | |
| Enrollment | 302 Students | |
| Principal | Martha B Hale | 843 300 4118 |
| Superintendent | Wayne Brazell, Ph. D. | 803-734-8322 |
| Board Chair | Don McLaurin | 803-603-1441 |

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

| YEAR | ABSOLUTE RATING | GROWTH RATING |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 2013 | N/A | N/A |
| 2012 | N/A | N/A |
| 2011 | N/A | N/A |
| 2010 | N/A | N/A |
| 2009 | N/A | N/A |

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS

| Excellent | Good | Average | Below Average | At-Risk |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

| | Our High School | | | High Schools with Students Like Ours | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------|--------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Percent | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
| Passed 2 subtests (%) | N/A | N/A | 100.0% | 86.9% | 88.1% | 90.0% |
| Passed 1 subtest (%) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 8.0% | 7.2% | 7.4% |
| Passed no subtests (%) | N/A | N/A | N/A | 5.1% | 4.7% | 3.6% |

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

| | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Percent | N/A | 95.7% |

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

| | Our High School | | High Schools with Students Like Ours | |
|--|-----------------|------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | 2012* | 2013 | 2012 | 2013 |
| Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort | N/A | N/A | N/A | 350 |
| Number of Graduates in Cohort | N/A | N/A | N/A | 300 |
| Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | 86.1% |

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

| | Our High School | | High Schools with Students Like Ours | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2013 | 2012 | 2013 |
| Number of Students in Cohort | N/A | N/A | N/A | 355 |
| Number of Graduates in Cohort | N/A | N/A | N/A | 308 |
| Rate | N/A | N/A | N/A | 87.0% |

End of Course Tests

| Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on: | Our High School | High Schools with Students Like Ours* |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2 | 100.0% | 87.9% |
| English 1 | 92.9% | 83.9% |
| Biology 1/Applied Biology 2 | 91.4% | 88.0% |
| US History and the Constitution | 96.0% | 75.5% |
| All Tests | 93.6% | 83.7% |

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

| | Our School | Change from Last Year | High Schools with Students Like Ours | Median High School |
|--|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Students (n=302) | | | | |
| Retention rate | 0.0% | N/A | 1.4% | 2.9% |
| Attendance rate | 96.7% | N/A | 95.3% | 95.1% |
| Served by gifted and talented program | 51.7% | N/A | 33.8% | 17.5% |
| With disabilities | 0.0% | N/A | 8.7% | 11.9% |
| Older than usual for grade | 0.0% | N/A | 4.1% | 7.9% |
| Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses | 0.0% | N/R | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| Enrolled in AP/IB programs | N/R | N/R | 34.9% | 15.1% |
| Successful on AP/IB exams | 32.0% | N/A | 53.0% | 51.5% |
| Eligible for LIFE Scholarship | N/R | N/R | 35.6% | 30.6% |
| Annual dropout rate | 0.0% | N/A | 1.5% | 2.3% |
| Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations | N/A | N/A | 0.0% | 7.2% |
| Enrollment in career/technology courses | N/A | N/A | 477 | 418 |
| Students participating in work-based experiences | N/A | N/A | 22.8% | 14.6% |
| Career/technology students attaining technical skills | 100.0% | N/A | 87.8% | 84.8% |
| Career/technology completers placed | N/A | N/A | 99.4% | 98.3% |
| Teachers (n=19) | | | | |
| Teachers with advanced degrees | 47.4% | N/A | 67.0% | 63.4% |
| Continuing contract teachers | 47.4% | N/A | 82.4% | 78.8% |
| Teachers returning from previous year | N/A | N/A | 88.6% | 86.2% |
| Teacher attendance rate | 98.6% | N/R | 95.6% | 95.2% |
| Average teacher salary* | \$40,049 | I/S | \$49,842 | \$48,699 |
| Professional development days/teacher | 0.4 days | N/R | 8.1 days | 9.9 days |
| School | | | | |
| Principal's years at school | 1.0 | N/R | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Student-teacher ratio in core subjects | N/R | N/R | 29.4 to 1 | 26.9 to 1 |
| Prime instructional time | 95.3% | N/R | 90.4% | 89.0% |
| Dollars spent per pupil** | \$6,208 | N/A | \$7,103 | \$7,919 |
| Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries** | 47.0% | N/A | 58.0% | 57.0% |
| Percent of expenditures for instruction** | 53.0% | N/A | 60.0% | 60.0% |
| Opportunities in the arts | Excellent | N/R | Excellent | Excellent |
| SACS accreditation | No | N/R | Yes | Yes |
| Parents attending conferences | 87.3% | N/R | 99.1% | 97.7% |
| Character development program | Average | N/R | Good | Good |
| Modern language program assessment | N/A | N/A | N/A | 11.0 |
| Classical language program assessment | N/A | N/A | N/A | 15.0 |

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

Performance By Student Groups

| | HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013 | | End of Course Tests Passage Rate | | On-time Graduation Rate, 2013 | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-----|
| | n | % | t | % | n | % |
| All Students | N/A | N/A | 78 | 93.6% | N/A | N/A |
| Gender | | | | | | |
| Male | N/A | N/A | 44 | 95.5% | N/A | N/A |
| Female | N/A | N/A | 34 | 91.2% | N/A | N/A |
| Racial/Ethnic Group | | | | | | |
| White | N/A | N/A | 54 | 94.4% | N/A | N/A |
| African American | N/A | N/A | 18 | 88.9% | N/A | N/A |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Hispanic | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| American Indian/Alaskan | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Disability Status | | | | | | |
| Disabled | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Migrant Status | | | | | | |
| Migrant | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| English Proficiency | | | | | | |
| Limited English Proficient | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Socio-Economic Status | | | | | | |
| Subsidized meals | N/A | N/A | 20 | 90.0% | N/A | N/A |

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto Scholars Academy provides a differentiated program designed to meet the educational needs of intellectually gifted learners, address their distinctive social and emotional needs, promote individual character development and instill a life-long love of learning. Our students engage with leading innovative organizations in higher education, business and science, to empower them to make original and impactful contributions toward the elevation of South Carolina in the areas of education, commerce, arts and science.

Our students come together from all areas of the LowCountry, including Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties, and represent a diverse population in terms of ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. In order to meet the school's mission, all students are in honors or advanced courses, and flexible scheduling allows faculty to meet the individual needs of each gifted learner. Visitors to the school would likely see cooperative groupings, discussion, debate, seminars, and inquiry-based learning as they walk the hallways. Most faculty have advanced degrees and all are dedicated to providing research-based, student-centered instruction for gifted learners. The development of our curriculum is facilitated by nationally recognized leaders in the field of gifted education who ensure that the latest research on best practices in gifted education is incorporated at all grade levels.

During the third year of operation, students at Palmetto Scholars Academy made tremendous positive gains, continuing to excel in statewide assessments, being selected as the first school in South Carolina to send a student research experiment to the International Space Station, being selected as a NASA Partner School through the College of Charleston's NASA Consortium, and having several teachers selected for participation in highly sought after teacher education programs including a social studies teacher who was selected for participation in the Library of Congress's teacher education program in Washington, DC. Community service requirements have expanded during the 2012-13 school year, and PSA continues to work supporting local charitable events on a regular basis.

The school community, which consists of faculty, staff, students, and supportive parents, is proud of the great accomplishments and successes that Palmetto Scholars Academy has been able to achieve in only three years of operation. An active parent organization, partnered with a long-range strategic plan, ensures a successful vision for our school's future as South Carolina's first public charter for gifted education. We are driven by our mission and strive to maintain the highest of standards in order to meet the unique needs of gifted learners.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

| | Teachers | Students* | Parents* |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of surveys returned | N/A | 73 | 14 |
| Percent satisfied with learning environment | N/A | 65.7% | 78.6% |
| Percent satisfied with social and physical environment | N/A | 67.1% | 64.3% |
| Percent satisfied with school-home relations | N/A | 90.2% | 71.4% |

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Overall Weighted Points Total | 100.0 |
| Overall Grade Conversion | A |

| Index Score | Grade | Description |
|--------------|-------|---|
| 90-100 | A | Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations. |
| 80-89.9 | B | Performance exceeds the state's expectations. |
| 70-79.9 | C | Performance meets the state's expectations. |
| 60-69.9 | D | Performance does not meet the state's expectations. |
| Less than 60 | F | Performance is substantially below the state's expectations |

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Palmetto Scholars Academy school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality Data

| | Our District | State |
|---|--------------|-------|
| Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers | 11.8% | 2.3% |
| Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers | 14.8% | 4.9% |

| | Our School | State Objective | Met State Objective |
|---|------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers | 9.0% | 0.0% | No |

Abbreviations for Missing Data

Two-Year HSAP Trend Data

| | School Year | Enrollment 1st Day of Testing | % Tested | % Below Basic | % Basic | % Proficient | % Advanced | School % Proficient or Advanced* |
|--|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|
|--|-------------|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|

English/Language Arts

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| All Students | 2012 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| | 2013 | 26 | 100.0 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Mathematics

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| All Students | 2012 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| | 2013 | 26 | 100.0 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

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